

(c) the amount allocated to Orissa under the said Scheme during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06; and

(d) the district-wise number of houses constructed in Orissa as compared to total target fixed for the same during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) No, Sir. There is no Rural Housing Scheme, other than Indira Awas Yojana being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development, for the people living below the poverty line.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Fluorosis due to ground water pollution

†2395. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States in the country which are affected by fluorosis due to ground water pollution, alongwith the details thereof;

(b) whether the level of fluoride has reached upto 11 mg per litre in some villages of Rajasthan and Gujarat;

(c) the number of districts of Rajasthan, Assam and Orissa, affected due to presence of iron in ground water; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to check the level of fluoride?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) As per the water quality survey ordered in March, 2000 and compiled, as reported by State Governments, on 1.4.2006, there are 17 States affected with excess fluoride in drinking water. Consumption of drinking water with excess fluoride

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[13 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

over a prolonged period may lead to fluorosis. As per Bureau of Indian Standards, the permissible limit for fluoride in drinking water is 1.5mg/l. Any habitation having fluoride contamination beyond 1.5 mg/l, in drinking water sources is considered as "fluoride affected habitation".

(c) Four districts in Rajasthan, 22 districts in Assam and all the 30 districts in Orissa, are affected with excess iron in drinking water, as reported by the State Governments as per the water quality survey ordered in March, 2000.

(d) The fluoride problem is geogenic in nature and worsen due to over-exploitation of ground water. The quality of drinking water of various sources is periodically monitored for various parameters including fluoride, by the District Water Quality Testing Laboratories set up with funding from Government of India and State Governments with reference to the water quality standards laid down by the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) as per IS:10500 standard. A community based National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance Programme has been launched in the country which aims attesting various parameters including fluoride for all drinking water sources by the Grass-root level workers in each Panchayat by simple-to-use field test kits.

Pending proposal from M.P. under SGSY

†2396. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals from Madhya Pradesh pending with Central Government under a special project of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana; and

(b) the present status of these proposals and by when the same would be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) As on date,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.